Government Hospital, Mannargudi

* 133 *Q.*—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) why and when the post-mortem examinations have been shifted to the Government Hospital premises in Mannargudi in Thanjavur district;

(*b*) whether any representation has been received from the public expressing their dissatisfaction regarding the shifting to the new place; and

(*c*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Minister for Health : (*a*) The post-mortem examinations were shifted from the shed located at a distance of about five furlongs from the Government Hospital, Mannargudi, to the hospital premises on 2nd December 1961. This was done wtih a view to save the time of the Medical Officer and other staff, who have to attend to the post-mortem work, and enable them to serve the patients at the hospital in a better way.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The matter is under examination by the Director of Medical Services.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Is not the Government Hospital at Mannargudi in the centre of the town? Very near the hospital there are temples.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is in the centre of the town.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : While it is in the centre of the town why is it that the *post-mortem* examination has been shifted to this hospital which is surrounded practically on all sides by the temples?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : There was a previous recommendation by the Advisory Committee of the Government Hospital, Mannargudi which said that this *post-mortem* shed should be situated some five furlongs away from the present hospital. In pursuance of that recommendation, it was shifted. Now representations are being made that this *post-mortem* shed should be brought back to the hospital in the city. That is being examined.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : May I know what is the general procedure that is followed in these matters?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : That is really beyond my depth. The hon. Member should wait for the Minister concerned to answer.